

SAVE LAKE DAVIS TASK FORCE STEERING COMMITTEE

City of Portola

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Bill Powers, City Mayor (1999)
Jim Murphy, City Administrator
(Former Steering Committee Chair)

Local Businesses

Saralyn Bensinger, Grizzly Resort & Store
Jerry Dollard, Dollard's Sierra Market

Plumas County Fran Roudebush, Steering Committee Chair



Save Lake Davis Coalition
Leonard Marsh, Chair
Colleen Marsh, E. Plumas Fisheries

California Department of Fish and Game
Diana Jacobs, Science Advisor
Ron Pelzman, Project Manager
Nick Villa, Environmental Specialist IV
Ivan Paulsen, Senior Fisheries Biologist

California Department of Water Resources
Ralph Hinton, Chief
Water Management Branch
Ralph Howell, Water Services Supervisor

June 30, 2000

American Fisheries Society
California-Nevada Chapter
Michael Meinz, President
P.O. Box 0505
Sacramento, CA 95816-0505

Dear Mr. Meinz:

This letter is sent to you on behalf of the Save Lake Davis Task Force Steering Committee, in response to your organization's correspondence (02-23-00) with Robert C. Hight, Director of the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) concerning the Department's pike management plans at Lake Davis.

Speaking on behalf of the Committee, we believe that your attack on the Director and DFG's "Managing Northern Pike at Lake Davis: A Plan for Y2000" is misinformed and unwarranted. There are several key facts that were ignored by the authors of your letter that we believe are an important part of the record.

First – and most importantly – the information used as the foundation for the Plan was collected through an aggressive public outreach effort, with oversight provided by the Steering Committee. Presentations and debate were conducted at public meetings that were well publicized and open to all interested parties, including members of the American Fisheries Society (AFS).

During the development of the Plan for Y2000, the Steering Committee considered several management options, presented by a variety of local and national pike fisheries experts. There is concern among all interested parties that the introduction of pike into Lake Davis was a malicious human act. A decision was made last November to exclude the use of Proposition 65 chemicals from the effort at this time. Instead, the focus has been on activities that can feasibly be implemented to kill and contain pike this year, while providing useful information that can be used to develop a more comprehensive

and long-term strategy in the future. Without question, the ultimate goal is the elimination of pike from Lake Davis.

Let me assure you Mr. Meinz, neither the Steering Committee nor the local community is myopic about the pike issue. Our interest in maintaining the trophy trout fishery and protecting the local economy and our quality of life should be understandable to everyone. However, after listening to the parade of experts and the scientists from DFG, we are also deeply concerned about the potential consequences of pike moving from Lake Davis into other lakes and waterways throughout the State.

As implementation of the Y2000 Plan moves forward, we continue to be open to new ideas as well as reasonable and useful modifications to existing activities. We welcome the constructive participation of your members in the development of a sensible long-term plan that will eliminate pike from Lake Davis and protect California's other waterways from contamination by this dangerous predator.

If you would like to discuss a more active role for AFS in our future planning efforts, please don't hesitate to contact me. I can be reached at 530-832-4174 or by cell phone 916-204-4174.

Sincerely,



Fran Roudebush
Chair, Save Lake Davis Task Force Steering Committee

cc: Jason Peltier, Executive Director
Timothy H. Quinn, Deputy General Manager
Zeke Grader, Executive Director
Richard Roos-Collins
Jim Crenshaw
Harold J. Singer, Executive Officer
Hal Salwasser
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Lester A. Snow, Director, Mid-Pacific Region
Felicia Marcus, Regional Administration
Michael V. Shulters, Chief, California District
Jim Lecky, Chief, Protected Resources Division
Jeff Vonk, State Conservationist
Peter Madsen, Brigadier General
Senator Byron Sher
Assemblyman Fred Keeley
National Office, Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund
Steve Evans
Bruce Babbitt, Secretary of the Interior